

(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 296 862 (13) A

(43) Date of A Publication 17.07.1996

(21) Application No 9500756.3

(22) Date of Filing 16.01.1995

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(51) INT CL⁶

A45B 19/02

(52) UK CL (Edition O)

A4P PBB

(56) Documents Cited

US 5103848 A US 3954117 A US 3053266 A

(58) Field of Search

UK CL (Edition N) A4P PBB

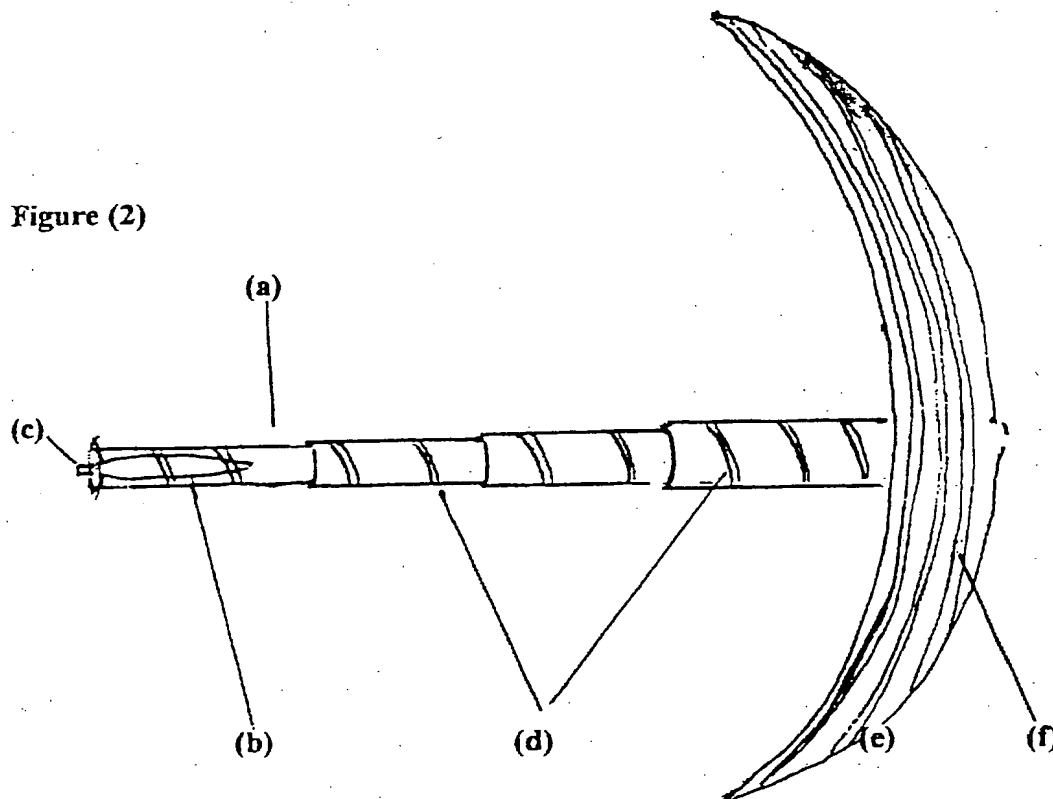
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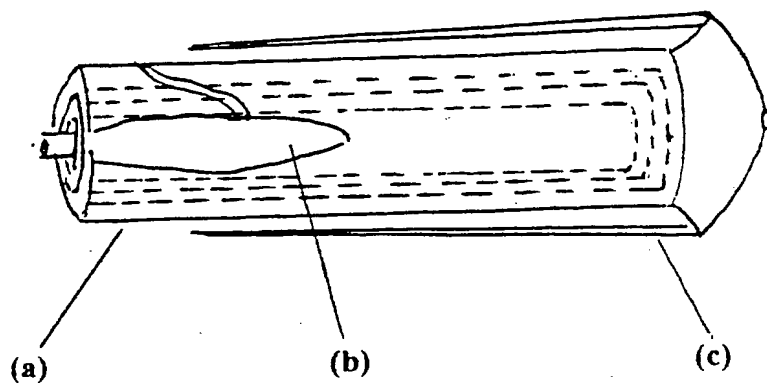
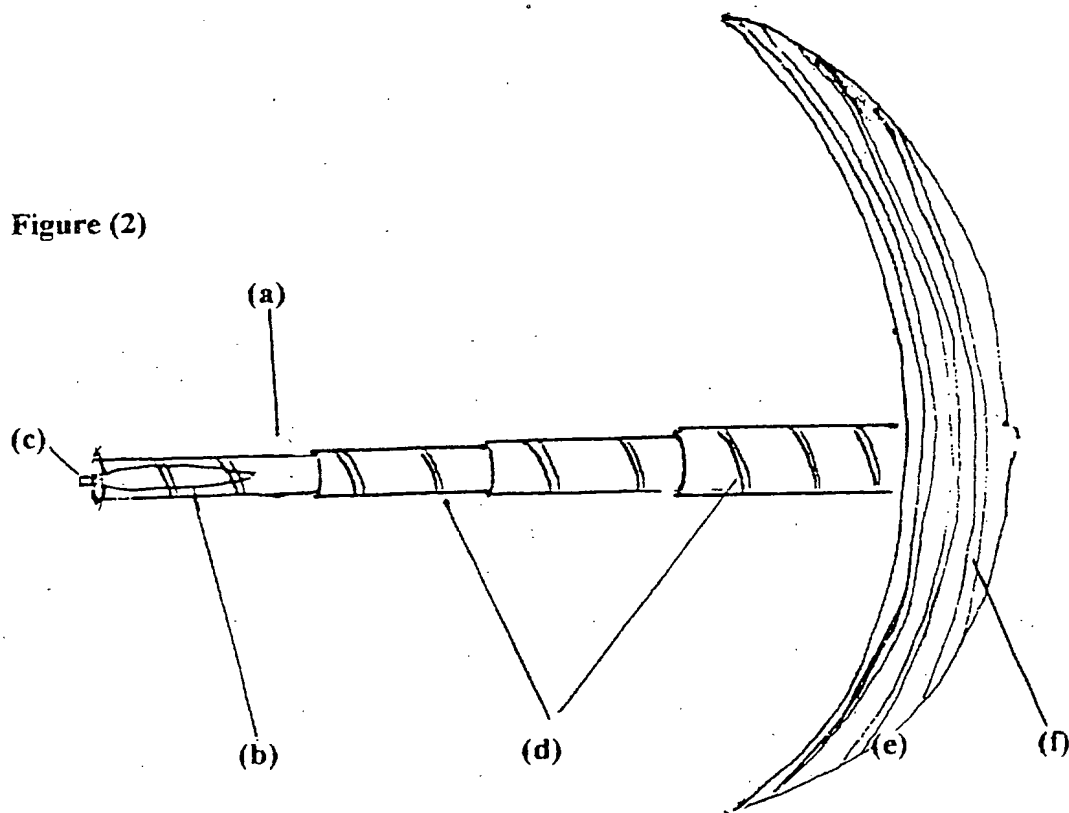
(54) An inflatable umbrella

(57) An inflatable umbrella has a cylinder of compressed air b, housed in the telescopic handle a. Air can pass via a spiral line d up the handle to spiral ribbing f in the canopy e. A safety clip c only allows the air cylinder to be operated once the handle has been extended. The umbrella is safe in crowded places. When expired, the air cylinder can be replaced by a new one.

Figure (2)



GB 2 296 862 A

INFLATABLE UMBRELLA**Figure (1)****Figure (2)**

- 1 -

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INFLATABLE UMBRELLA

The invention relates to an inflatable umbrella.

DESCRIPTION

The basis of the invention will now be described by reference to the diagrams (1) & (2) attached.

FIGURE (1)

Shows the umbrella in its delated state with the telescopic handle closed (a) and containing the compressed air cylinder (b). The main body/canopy of the umbrella (c) when deflated as in this diagram folds tidily around the handle.

FIGURE (2)

The handle of the umbrella (a) is made of a transparent material telecoping to full size. It holds the compressed air cylinder (b) which has a safety catch (c) attached to prevent accidental operation. The gas is directed through spiral ribbing (d) around the telescopic handle giving extra rigidity to the handle when fully extended. The canopy (e) is made of a fully waterproofed, or water-resistant, material. The gas enters spiral ribbing (f) circling the body of the canopy giving it strength and bringing it to its full inflated size.

Operation: The handle is fully extended telescopically and the gas safety clip is released and the gas quick-release mechanism is operated. The gas enters the spirallying around the handle and then continues to inflate the canopy. When the use of the umbrella is no longer required, it is deflated. The gas cylinder is replaced with a fresh one when extinguished.

CLAIM

Umbrellas are traditionally unwieldy and can be dangerous in a crowded metropolitan situation. They can be difficult to maintain in an efficient state in extremes of weather.

The present invention detailed here is for an umbrella that relies on being speedily inflated via a cylinder of compressed air held in the telescopic handle which is released into the body of the umbrella via a series of spiral ribbing. This keeps it rigid and with no sharp framework in the umbrella makes it safe in a crowded environment. Furthermore the air injection is safe (by virtue of a safety catch) and the consequent inflation and deflation takes seconds making it a very versatile everyday accessory.

Search Examiner
JOHN WILSON

Date of completion of Search
25 APRIL 1995

- Documents considered relevant following a search in respect of Claims :-
THE 'CLAIM'

(i) UK Patent Office collections of GB, EP, WO and US patent specifications.

- (ii) **ONLINE: WPI**

Categories of documents

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| Q: | Document indicating lack of novelty or of inventive step. | P: | Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of the present application. |
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Category	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)
A	US 5103848 (PARSONS) whole document	the claim
A	US 3954117 (WALLACE) whole document	the claim
A	US 3053266 (BURNS) whole document	the claim

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